

Claim Listing

1. (currently amended) A printer access control module within a printer that is operable to:

receive a request from a client computer for printing resource authorization;

determine the policy domain of the requesting client computer;

issue a security key to the client device, the security key indicative of one or more printer resources available to client computers of the determined policy domain, wherein issuing a security key comprises issuing a first security key that is indicative of greater printing resource authorization upon a determination that the client computer is a member of a predetermined policy domain and issuing a second security key that is indicative of limited printing resource authorization upon a determination that the client computer is not a member of the predetermined policy domain; and

authorize a print job received from the client computer to be printed using one or more printer resources indicated by the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job.

2. (currently amended) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein issuing ~~[[a]]~~ the first security key comprises issuing a security key that is indicative of full printing resource authorization ~~to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain and issuing a security key that is indicative of limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain.~~

3. (currently amended) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein issuing ~~[[a]]~~ the first security key comprises issuing a first security that is indicative of a first printer resource and a second printer resource and issuing the second security key comprises issuing a second security key that is indicative of

~~the first printer resource but not the second printer resource~~ greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a the predetermined policy domain than to client computers that are not non-members of the predetermined policy domain.

4. (currently amended) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein ~~one printer resource includes color printing~~ authorizing a print job comprises authorizing the print job received from the client computer to be printed using color printing only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources.

5. (currently amended) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing a print job over a specified page limit only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one printer resource includes printing print jobs over a specified page limit.~~

6. (currently amended) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing the print job received from the client computer to be printed using one or more specified print media types only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one or more printer resources include specific print media, specific print media comprising at least one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies.~~

7. (currently amended) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing a print job that is limited to one or more of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of limited printing resources ~~one or~~

~~more printer resources include at least one of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time.~~

8. (original) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network.

9. (original) The printer access control module of claim 1, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A printer that is operable to:
receive a request from a client computer for printing resource authorization;
determine the policy domain of the requesting client computer;
issue a security key to the client device, the security key indicative of one or more printer resources available to client computers of the determined policy domain, wherein issuing a security key comprises issuing a first security key that is indicative of greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain and issuing a second security key that is indicative of limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain; and
authorize a print job received from the client computer to be printed using one or more printer resources indicated by the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job.

14. (currently amended) The printer of claim 13, wherein issuing [[a]] the first security key comprises issuing a first security key that is indicative of full printing resource authorization ~~to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain and issuing a security key that is indicative of limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain.~~

15. (currently amended) The printer of claim 13, wherein issuing [[a]] the first security key comprises issuing a first security that is indicative of a first printer resource and a second printer resource and issuing the second security key comprises issuing a second security key that is indicative of the first printer resource but not the second printer resource ~~greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain than to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain.~~

16. (currently amended) The printer of claim 13, wherein ~~one printer resource includes color printing~~ authorizing a print job comprises authorizing the print job received from the client computer to be printed using color printing only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources.

17. (currently amended) The printer of claim 13, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing a print job over a specified page limit only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one printer resource includes printing print jobs over a specified page limit.~~

18. (currently amended) The printer of claim 13, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing the print job received from the client computer to be printed using one or more specified print media types only if the issued

security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one or more printer resources include specific print media, specific print media comprising at least one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies~~

19. (currently amended) The printer of claim 13, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing a print job that is limited to one or more of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of limited printing resources ~~one or more printer resources include at least one of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time.~~

20. (original) The printer of claim 13, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network

21. (original) The printer of claim 13, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A machine-readable medium with instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed on a computerized system operable to cause the system to:

receive a request from a client computer for printing resource authorization;

determine the policy domain of the requesting client computer;

issue a security key to the client device, the security key indicative of one or more printer resources available to client computers of the determined policy domain, wherein issuing a security key comprises issuing a first security key that is indicative of greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain and issuing a second security key that is indicative of limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain; and

authorize a print job received from the client computer to be printed using one or more printer resources indicated by the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job.

26. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein issuing ~~[[a]]~~ the first security key comprises issuing a security key that is indicative of full printing resource authorization ~~to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain and issuing a security key that is indicative of limited printing resource authorization to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain.~~

27. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein issuing ~~[[a]]~~ the first security key comprises issuing a first security that is indicative of a first printer resource and a second printer resource and issuing the second security key comprises issuing a second security key that is indicative of the first printer resource but not the second printer resource ~~greater printing resource authorization to client computers that are members of a predetermined policy domain than to client computers that are not members of the predetermined policy domain.~~

28. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing the print job received from the client computer to be printed using color printing only if the issued security

key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one printing resource comprises color printing.~~

29. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing a print job over a specified page limit only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one printer resource includes printing print jobs over a specified page limit.~~

30. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing the print job received from the client computer to be printed using one or more specified print media types only if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of greater printing resources ~~one or more printer resources include specific print media, specific print media comprising at least one of letterhead, check stock, glossy paper, and transparencies.~~

31. (currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein authorizing a print job comprises authorizing a print job that is limited to one or more of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time if the issued security key used by the client computer to encrypt the print job is indicative of limited printing resources ~~one or more printer resources include at least one of a maximum cost per page, maximum cost per period of time, and maximum pages per period of time.~~

32. (original) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined portion of network node addresses on a local area network.

33. (original) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the policy domain comprises a predefined group of identifiable users.

34. (original)

35. (original)

36. (original)